

The Corporation of the Municipality of Sioux Lookout

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MEDIA RELEASE

July 14, 2021

~ FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ~

Changes to Municipal Services Under Step Three

Sioux Lookout, ON – With Ontario moving to Step Three of the Roadmap to Reopen on Friday, residents of Sioux Lookout can expect several important changes to their municipal services.

Starting Monday, July 19th, all Municipality of Sioux Lookout facilities will be open to the public for the first time since April 3rd. This includes the Municipal Office, the Recreation Centre and Gymnasium, the Public Works Garage, the Fire Hall, and the Airport Administration Building. Municipal Office hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., all other facilities will return to their normal hours of operation.

"We look forward to welcoming the public back into our facilities on Monday," said Municipal CAO, Michelle Larose. "Everyone's patience and understanding has been truly appreciated while we worked to provide the community with essential services from behind closed doors. Please remember that face masks will still be required when visiting municipal facilities to protect visitors and our staff."

Changes taking effect in our Recreation and Culture Department include:

- The Fitness Centre will reopen at 50 percent capacity. <u>Appointments will be required.</u>
- The Gymnasium may have a delayed reopening, depending on the developing forest fire evacuation situation.

Other key changes under Step Three that local residents should be aware of include:

- Indoor sports and recreational fitness facilities are allowed up to 50 percent capacity
- Indoor meeting and event spaces with physical distancing are allowed at 50 percent capacity, up to 1,000 people
- ALL retail and personal care services are limited to the number of people who can maintain a
 physical distance of two metres
- Indoor food or drink establishments where dance facilities are provided are allowed up to the lesser of 25 percent capacity or 250 people
- Face coverings in indoor public settings and physical distancing requirements remain in place

Ontario's Step Three restrictions are expected to remain in place for at least 21 days <u>and</u> until 80 percent of the eligible population aged 12 and up has received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and 75 percent have received their second dose, with no public health unit having less than 70 percent of their population fully vaccinated.

We remind everyone to continue practicing physical distancing, wearing your mask, and washing your hands frequently. If you have not yet been vaccinated, you are strongly encouraged to do so, for everyone's health and safety. The next mass vaccination clinic in Sioux Lookout will be on Thursday, July 22nd. Please contact the Northwestern Health Unit for more information on appointments.

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For more information, please contact:

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